

Reading Mastery Fluency Passages

DAY 1 – Students circle punctuation.

Red = ending punctuation (Stop)

Yellow = commas (Pause)

Green = quotation marks (Go in a different voice)

DAY 2 - Students color code sentences using highlighters.

Pink = statements (Say it)

Blue = questions (Ask it)

Orange = exclamations (Shout it)



Use after: *Lesson 108 RMSE K*

The Old Goat

The old goat had an old coat. The old goat said, "I will eat this old coat." So she did. "That was fun, she said. "I ate the old coat. And now I am cold." Now the old goat is sad.

Words in Passage: 44

Words in Checkout: 44

Time: 2 ½ mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 109 RMSE K*

The Fat Man

The fat man and his fat cow got on a little rock. A cat said, "Fat man, that rock will not hold a fat man and his cow. That rock will go down the hill."

Did the rock go down the hill with the fat man and his fat cow?

Words in Passage: 53

Words in Checkout: 35

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 110 RMSE K*

The Rat

The rat had fun. He ran in the sand. He had sand on his feet. He had sand on his ears. He had sand on his nose. He had sand on his tail. He said, "I have a lot of sand on me."

Words in Passage: 45

Words in Checkout: 45

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 115 RMSE K*

Lots of Cars

A man on a farm has lots of cars. He has old cars. He has little cars. Are his cars for goats? No. Are his cars for sheep? No. Are his cars for cows? No. His cars are for cops. He has lots of cop cars.

Words in Passage: 49

Words in Checkout: 49

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 120 RMSE K*

A Fish in the Rain

Ron met Pat in the rain. Ron got wet. Pat got wet. Ron said, "This is not fun." Pat said, "This is fun." Ron said, "I have wet feet. So I will go home. I do not need rain." Pat said, "We can get fish." So she got a fish and gave it to him. Ron said, "It is fun to get wet if we get fish."

Words in Passage: 72

Words in Checkout: 39

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 125 RMSE K*

The Red Hat

The fish had a car and no hat. She said, "I do not need a car. I need a red hat." She met a cow. The cow had a red hat. The fish said, "Can I have the red hat?" The cow said, "No." The fish said, "I will give that cow a car if she will let me have the hat." The cow said, "Take the hat and give me a car." So the fish got a red hat and the cow got a car.

Words in Passage: 89

Words in Checkout: 89

Time: 3 mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 130 RMSE K*

The Talking Cat

The girl was going for a walk. She met a fat cat. "Can cats talk?" The girl said. The cat said, "I can talk. But I do not talk to girls. I talk to dogs." The girl did not like that cat. "I do not like cats that will not talk to me." The cat said, "I will not talk to girls." The girl said, "I do not like that cat. And I do not give fish to cats I do not like." The cat said, "I like fish so I will talk to this girl." So the girl and the cat ate the fish."

Words in Passage: 108

Words in Checkout: 108

Time: 3 mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 135 RMSE K*

Ron said, "Yes"

Ron's dad told him to sleep in bed. "Yes," Ron said. And he did. His mom said, "Ron, paint this bed red." "Yes," Ron said. He got the paint and made the bed red. "That is fine," his mom said. A big boy met Ron. He said, "Can Ron paint a car red?" "Yes," Ron said. And he made the car red. Then Ron went home. His mom said, "Ron made a bed red and a car red. But Ron got lots of paint on Ron. Ron is red." So Ron went to the tub and went rub, rub, rub. Now Ron is not red.

This is the End.

Words in Passage: 112

Words in Checkout: 112

Time: 3 mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 140 RMSE K*

Going to the Toy Shop

A boy and his mother went to a toy shop. They went to get toys. The boy said, "I like toys. I like big toys." His mother said, "I do not like big toys. So we will get little toys." The man in the toy shop said, "We have a lot of toys. We have toys for boys. We have toys for girls. And we have toys for dogs." The boy said, "I am not a dog. I am a boy. And I like big toys."

Words in Passage: 91

Words in Checkout: 91

Time: 2 ½ mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 145 RMSE K*

The Pig That Bit His Leg

A little bug and a pig met on the road. The pig said, "I can walk better than you." The little bug said, "But I can eat better than you." Then she bit a log. The pig said, "I can eat logs better than you." The pig went bite, bite, bite, and ate the log. The bug said, "I can bite a pig better than you." She bit the pig on the leg. The pig said, "I can do better than that." The pig gave his leg a big bite. The bug said, "You bite pigs better than me."

The End

Words in Passage: 107

Words in Checkout: 107

Time: 3 mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 149 RMSE K*

Will The Old Car Start?

A man had an old car. The old car did not start. So the man went down the road. Soon he came to a rat.

The man said, "Can you start an old car?"

The rat said, "No. Rats do not have cars."

So the man went down the road. Soon he came to a big man. He said to that man, "Can you start an old car?"

The big man said, "Yes. I can but I will not. I am sitting. I never start cars if I am sitting."

The man said, "You can sit in the car if you can start it."

So the big man got in the car and made the car start. He said, "I like this old car. So I will keep sitting in it." And he did.

The End

Words in Passage: 141

Words in Checkout: 141

Time: 3 ½ mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 150 RMSE K*

The Old Man Finds a Horse

An old horse was in a barn. He said, "I am sad. I can not find a man that will ride on me." He said to the cat, "Have you seen a man that will ride on me?"

The cat said, "No."

An old man was walking near the barn. He said to the cat, "I can not find a horse to ride. Have you seen a horse that I can ride?"

The cat said, "Yes. He is in the barn."

Then the old man walked into the barn. He went up to the old horse. The old man said, "Old horse, do you like to go for a ride?"

The old horse said, "Yes." So the old man and the old horse went riding.

The End

Words in Passage: 133

Words in Checkout: 133

Time: 3 ½ mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 155 RMSE K*

The Red Tooth Brush

A girl had a red tooth brush. She liked her red tooth brush. She brushed her teeth six times a day. She said, "My teeth are white. The are so white they shine like the moon." The girl had a dog, but his teeth did not shine. The girl went to brush her teeth. But she did not see her tooth brush. "I do not see my red tooth brush," she said. She went to her mother. "I need my red tooth brush." But her mother said, "I do not have your red tooth brush."

Words in Passage: 99

Words in Checkout: 99

Time: 2 ½ mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 160 RMSE K*

A Man Liked to Go Fast

A man did things fast. He went fast in his car. He walked fast. He talked fast. He even ate fast. And when he ate, he got egg on his feet and fish cake on his nose. The man said, "I will slow down. I will not do things fast." So the man did not go fast in his car. He did not walk fast. He did not talk fast. And he did not eat so fast that he got fish cake on his nose.

This is the End.

Words in Passage: 95

Words in Checkout: 95

Time: 2 ½ mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 130 RMSE K*

The Talking Cat

The girl was going for a walk. She met a fat cat. "Can cats talk?" the girl said.

The cat said, "I can talk, but I do not talk to girls. I talk to dogs."

The girl did not like that cat. "I do not like cats that will not talk to me."

The cat said, "I will not talk to girls."

The girl said, "I do not like that cat. And I do not give fish cake to cats I do not like."

The cat said, "I like fish cake, so I will talk to this girl."

So the girl and the cat ate the fish cake.

The End

Words in Passage: 113

Words in Checkout: 113

Time: 2 ½ mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 10 RMSE 1*

The Dog and the Bath

We had a big dog. Her name was Sal. This dog liked to run and play. This dog did not like to take a bath.

We said, "Come in, Sal. It is time to take a bath." We ran after her.

We said, "Sal, if you come back and take a bath, you can have some corn." But she did not like corn.

We said, "If you come back and take a bath, you can have some meat." But she did not like meat.

We said, "If you come back and take a bath, you can read a book.

The big dog came back and took a bath. Why did Sal take a bath? She liked to read books.

This is the End.

Words in Passage: 128

Words in Checkout: 104

Time: 2 ½ mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 15 RMSE 1*

The Cow Boys Have a Jumping Meet

The cow boy got on a cow. The other cow boys said, "Ho, ho. That is funny."

The cow boy got mad. He said, "This cow can go as fast as a horse. And she can jump better than a horse."

The other cow boys said, "No cow can jump better than my horse." So the cow boys rode to a creek.

The cow boy on the cow said, "Let's see if a horse can jump this creek."

"I will try, a cow boy said. His horse went up to the creek. But then his horse stopped. And the cow boy fell in the creek.

The cow boy on the cow said, "Ho, ho. That horse didn't even try to jump the creek."

The next cow boy said, "My horse will try. And my horse will fly over that stream. He will not even touch the stream."

Words in Passage: 154

Words in Checkout: 99

Time: 2 ½ mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 20 RMSE 1*

Jill Tried and Tried

Did Jill try to do things? Did her sister try to do things? What did Jill do when she tried? Jill said, "I can not read a book, but I will try." What did Jill say?

Her sister said, "I can not read a book, but I will not try." What did her sister say? So Jill tried to read and her sister did not try.

Now Jill is good at reading. But her sister can not read books. Her sister can not ride a bike. Her sister can not jump rope. And her sister can not read books. But her sister can do some thing better that Jill. Her sister can really cry.

This is the End.

Words in Passage: 122

Words in Checkout: 82

Time: 2 ½ mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 25 RMSE 1*

The Boy Asked Why

A boy named Don liked to ask why. His mother told him to stay in the yard. He asked, "Why?" So she told him why. She said, "We will eat soon." What did she say?

Don dug a big hole in the yard. His brother said, "You must no dig holes in the yard."

Don asked, "Why?" So his brother told him. His brother said, "Hole make the yard look bad." What did his brother say?

Don got a can of white paint. "I will paint my bike white," he said. So he got the paint brush and started to paint his bike.

His sister asked, "What are you doing?"

Don answered, "Painting my bike white." What did the boy say?

Words in Passage: 125

Words in Checkout: 125

Time: 3 mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 30 RMSE 1*

The Farmer Sold His Buttons

What did the farmer like?

Where did he have his best buttons?

What did the man want to buy from the farmer?

The man kept buying buttons and the farmer kept selling them. The man said, "Now you have five buttons. I want to buy that pink button." So the farmer took off his pink button and sold it to the man.

Then the man wanted to buy the farmer's yellow button. So the farmer sold the yellow button to the man.

The man said, "You still have three buttons. I will buy them."

So the farmer took off the three buttons. But when his pants had no more buttons, his pants fell down. What did they do?

The farmer said, "My pants fell down because I sold the buttons that held up my pants." What did he say?

So now the farmer has money, but he has no buttons to keep his pants up. How will he keep his pants up?

This is the End.

Words in Passage: 171

Words in Checkout: 104

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 35 RMSE 1*

The Bug in the Ball Meets a Girl

A small bug had a home in a ball. He said, "I hope I can stay in this ball. I like it here."

He went to sleep in the ball. He was having a good dream. He was dreaming of a fine party. Then he sat up. The ball was rolling. "What is going on?" he called.

He looked from the little hole in the ball and saw a tall girl. She was rolling the ball on the floor.

"What are you doing?" he asked. "This is my home. Stop rolling it on the floor."

The girl picked up the ball and looked at the small bug. Then she dropped the ball. "Oh," she cried, "there is a bug in my ball. I hate bugs."

The ball hit the floor. It went up. Then it went down. Then it went up. The bug was getting sick.

"Stop that," he said. "I don't like a home that goes up and down."

The tall girl bent down and looked at the bug. She said, "This is my ball. So go away."

The small bug looked up at the girl and started to cry.

Words in Passage: 199

Words in Checkout: 120

Time: 2 ½ mins

Errors: 4



Use after: *Lesson 40 RMSE 1*

The Dog Loves to Read, Read, Read

A dog that could talk lived with a tall man. The dog took a book from the table. The dog said, "This book is what I need, need, need. I love to read, read, read."

The tall man came in and said, "I look, look, look, but I cannot see my book, book, book."

Then the man said, "My book was on the table."

The dog said, "The book was on the table, but I took it from the table."

The tall man yelled at the dog. He said, "You must not take my book from the table."

She said, "Do you want to play ball, ball, ball in the hall, hall, hall?"

"Yes, yes," the man said.

The dog kicked the ball far, far, far down the hall. When the man ran after the ball, the dog took the book and hid it.

Then she said, "Let the man look, look, look. He will never find his book, book, book."

The End

Words in Passage: 168

Words in Checkout: 94

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 45 RMSE 1*

Walter Kicks the Ball

Walter was ready to kick the ball. The boys and girls on the side of the lot were saying, "Don't let Walter kick."

But Walter did kick. Another boy held the ball. A tall boy from the other team almost got to the ball, but Walter kicked the ball just in time. The ball went like a shot. It went past the end of the lot. It went over a tall wall that was next to the lot. It almost hit a car that was on the street.

The boys on Walter's team looked at Walter. The boys on the other team looked at Walter. One boy from the other team said, "That ball went all the way over the wall. I did not think that a small boy could kick a ball so far."

The boys and girls on the side of the lot cheered. "That's the way to kick, Walter," they called.

Now Walter's team needed one more score to win the game.

Words in Passage: 169

Words in Checkout: 129

Time: 2 ½ mins

Errors: 4



Use after: *Lesson 50 RMSE 1*

Jill's Mouse

Jill had a pet mouse. Her mouse was little and pink. Jill got a little box for her little mouse. Then she went to her mother and said, "Look what I have. I have a pet mouse in this box."

Her mother jumped up. Her mother said, "Get that mouse out of this house."

Jill said, "But I want to keep this mouse."

Her mother said, "You can't keep that mouse in this house. I don't like that mouse."

Jill asked, "Would you let me keep the mouse in the yard? Then the mouse would not be around you."

"Yes," her mother said, "but keep that mouse out of this house."

So Jill took the box and went to the yard. She said, "I will make a house for this mouse." So she piled some grass around the box.

Now Jill is happy and her mother is happy. And the mouse is happy.

Why was Jill happy?

Why was her mother happy?

Why was the mouse happy?

The End

Words in Passage: 171

Words in Checkout: 101

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 55 RMSE 1*

The Magic Pouch

What was inside the pouch?

How many years had the elf lived in the pouch?

The little girl said to herself. "Should I open this pouch?" She looked at the pouch. Then slowly she opened it. Out jumped a little elf, no bigger than your foot. The girl's hound went, "Owwwww." Then the elf jumped all around the room. He jumped on the table and on the floor. Then he ran up one wall and down the other wall. He even ran around the hound. "Owwwww," the hound yelled.

"I'm out. I'm out," the elf shouted. "I lived in that pouch a thousand years and now I'm out."

At last the girl's hound stopped going "Owwwww." The elf sat on the table and said, "I thank you very much. Please take the magic pouch. But be careful. When you are good, the pouch will be good to you. But when you are bad, the pouch will be bad to you."

Words in Passage: 163

Words in Checkout: 105

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 60 RMSE 1*

The Pet Goat

A girl got a pet goat. She liked to go running with her pet goat. She played with her goat in her house. She played with the goat in her yard.

But the goat did some things that made the girl's dad mad. The goat ate things. He ate cans and he ate canes. He ate pans and he ate panes. He even ate capes and caps.

One day her dad said, "That goat must go. He eats too many things."

The girl said, "Dad, if you let the goat stay with us, I will see that he stops eating all those things."

Her dad said, "We will try it."

So the goat stayed and the girl made him stop eating cans and canes and caps and capes.

But one day a car robber came to the girl's house. He saw a big red car near the house and said, "I will steal that car."

He ran to the car and started to open the door.

The girl and the goat were playing in the back yard. They did not see the car robber.

Words in Passage: 187

Words in Checkout: 131

Time: 2 ½ mins

Errors: 4



Use after: *Lesson 65 RMSE 1*

The Small Cloud Must Help

The wind was blowing the small cloud away from his father and mother. The small cloud couldn't even see them any more. "I am so sad that I will cry," the cloud said. But what do you think happened? When the cloud tried to cry, no tears came out. That made the cloud even sadder.

He said, "I am so small that I can't even make tears."

Just then someone called, "Help, help."

The little cloud looked down. There was a small deer and a mother deer. And near them was a big forest fire. That small deer and the mother deer were trapped. "Help, help," they called.

The little cloud said to himself, "I must get help." Then he called, "Mom and dad, come over here and make some rain on the forest." But the mother cloud and the father cloud were too far away. They couldn't hear the little cloud.

"What will I do?" the little cloud asked himself. "If I could make rain, I could help those deer. But I am too small."

The fire was getting bigger all the time. Now it was all around the two deer. The small cloud said, "I must get my mother and father."

But every time the small cloud started to float on way, the wind took him back. The small cloud looked down at the two deer. Then the cloud said, "I am the only one who can help those deer. So I will do what I can."

Words in Passage: 255

Words in Checkout: 120

Time: 2 ½ mins

Errors: 4



Use after: *Lesson 160 RMSE 1*

The Small Cloud Must Help

The small cloud was far away from his father and mother. "I am so sad that I will cry," the cloud said. But when the cloud tried to cry, no tears came out. That made the cloud even sadder.

Just then someone called, "Help, help,"

A small deer and a mother deer were near a big forest fire. The deer were trapped. "Help, help," they called.

The little cloud called, "Mom and Dad, come over here and make some rain on the forest." But they couldn't hear him.

The little cloud said, "If I could make rain, I could help those deer."

Now the fire was all around the two deer. The cloud said, "I am the only one who can help those deer. So I will try to rain."

The cloud began to shake. He became bigger and darker. "Boom, boom, " He said. Then drops started to fall from the cloud. That rain fell faster and faster. Soon it soaked the trees that were on fire, and it soaked the two deer. All the fires were out.

"Thank you, thank you, " they called to the cloud.

Just then the mother cloud and the father cloud floated up to the little cloud. The father cloud said, "We see what you did. You are a good cloud."

The mother cloud said, "I am so proud. Today my little cloud became a real rain cloud."

This is the end.

Words in Passage: 244

Words in Checkout: 116

Time: 2 ½ mins

Errors: 4



Use after: *Lesson 70 RMSE 1*

Sandy Finds the Train Car

When Sandy counted the cars on her way to school, there were one hundred cars in the train. When she counted the cars after school, there were ninety-nine cars. One car was missing.

Sandy said, "I must think about this. There were fifty red cars and fifty yellow cars. But now there are not fifty red cars. One red car is missing."

Sandy walked next to the rail road track.

Soon she came to a shed. There were rail road tracks that led to the shed. Sandy said to herself, "I will find out what is in that shed."

So Sandy followed the tracks to the shed.

She looked inside the shed and saw a red train car standing on the tracks. The car door was open. Sandy looked around. No one was around. So Sandy ran over to the door of the red car and looked inside. The car was filled with TV sets.

She said to herself, "I found the car with the TV sets."

Sandy was all set to run back to tell someone that she had found the missing car. But just then there was a sound near her. It was the sound of foot steps.

Words in Passage: 205

Words in Checkout: 101

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 3



Use after: *Lesson 75 RMSE 1*

Thank You, Sandy

Sandy and the others were near the shed. The cop said, "The rest of you wait here. I'll go inside that shed and see what's going on."

So they waited as the cop went into the shed. As soon as the cop was in the shed, Big Bill said, "I've got work to do. I'm leaving."

You better stay here," one of the men said. Big Bill didn't answer. Bill just gave Sandy a mean look.

Sandy looked at the shed and waited. Then she saw some men start to come from the shed. They all had their hands up. The cop was walking behind them.

The cop shouted, "That girl found the TV sets. I think Big Bill is on of the Crooks."

One of the men said to Sandy, "Thank you for finding the missing car." The woman also thanked Sandy. So did the cop.

Then one of the men said, "This rail road would like to give you a gift for finding the crooks." So the man gave her a very fine gift. What do you think that gift was?

It was a TV set.

This is the End.

Words in Passage: 195

Words in Checkout: 109

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 4



Use after: *Lesson 80 RMSE 1*

The Fox Wants a Cone

A little girl was sitting in the woods. She had an ice cream cone. She was sitting on a log, eating her ice cream cone.

A sly fox was looking at her. That fox was thinking. "I will con that girl. I will con her into giving me her cone."

So the sly fox ran up to the girl. Then he fell over and began to shout, "Help me, help me. My mouth is on fire. Give me something cool for my mouth."

"Close you eyes and open your mouth," the girl said.

The sly fox was thinking, "Ho, ho, I conned that girl out of her cone."

When the fox closed his eyes, he did not get a cone in his mouth. He got a drink of cold water.

"There," the girl said. "That should make your mouth cool."

"No, no," the fox shouted. "My mouth needs something colder than that water."

The girl said, "Close your eyes and open your mouth."

The fox said to himself, "This time I will con her out of her cone."

But he did not con her out of the cone. He conned her out of a bit of ice. She dropped the ice into his mouth. The she said, "Now your mouth must feel cool."

"No, no," the fox yelled. "I need a cone."

The girl said, "You can have the cone, but I ate all the ice cream."

But the fox did not take the cone. She had made him so mad that he ran back into the woods. He never tried to con her again.

Words in Passage: 270

Words in Checkout: 120

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 4



Use after: *Lesson 85 RMSE 1*

Don Has Super Fun

Who gave Don the dime?

Where did he tape the dime?

Was he doing good things?

Did Don mope after he became a super man?

Don was hopping around the store in his cap and his cape. He was hitting the walls and making holes. He was having a lot of fun.

All at once he stopped. He said, "I will go outside and show what a superman I am."

When Don left the store, he didn't open the door. He ran into the door. "Crash."

Some boys were standing outside the store. They said, "Look at that funny man in a cap and a cape."

Don said, "I am no funny man. I am a super man."

Don ran to a car that was parked near the store. He picked the car up and gave it a big heave. The car crashed into another car.

The boys yelled, "Let's get out of here. That man is a nut."

"Come back," Don shouted. "Let me show you how super I am."

But the boys did not come back. They ran as fast as they could go.

Don said, "I think I will fly to the top of this store." So he did.

Then he said, "I think I will dive down to the street." So he did. He took a dive. "Crash." He made a big hole in the street.

"This is a lot of fun," Don said.

To be continued.

Words in Passage: 245

Words in Checkout: 119

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



Use after: *Lesson 90 RMSE 1*

Sid Worked in a Seed Shop

Sid had a job. He worked in a seed shop. That shop had lots of little plants.

The boss of the shop had a bad leg. So she walked with a cane. When she was not walking with her cane, she left her cane in a big can near the door.

One day the boss said, "I must hop in the truck and go to the other side of town. You stay here and take care of the shop."

So the boss got her cane from the can and went to the truck. When she got in her truck, she said, "There is a pile of notes on the table. Take care of them."

After the boss left, Sid went to the table and began to read those notes. Here is what one note said. "Send ten pine trees." But Sid did not read those words. Here is what he said, "Send ten pin trees."

Then he looked around the shop for pins. He stuck the pins in sticks. He made ten little trees of pins. Then he said, "I don't know what anybody wants with pin trees, but I will send them out."

And he did.

Then he picked up the next note. It said, "Fix the window pane." But here is what Sid said when he looked at the words. "Fix the window pan."

Sid looked around the shop for a window pan. He said, "I can't see a window pan, so I will make one." And he did. He made a big tin pan. He nailed it over the window. Then he said to himself, "I am doing a fine job."

More to come

Words in Passage: 283

Words in Checkout: 120

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



Use after: *Lesson 95 RMSE 1*

Dan the Teacher

A girl named Ann had a dog. The dog was named Dan. One day Dan went to school with Ann.

The teacher said, "Ann, take that dog out of this school. Schools are for boys and girls. Schools are not for dogs."

Ann said, "But this dog is very smart. He likes to read and he likes to add."

The teacher said, "I will let that dog stay, but if he makes a sound, I will make him leave."

So the dog sat down to read a book to himself. The boys and girls worked with the teacher.

But then the teacher was called out of the room.

One boy said, "We do not have a teacher now."

Dan walked up and said, "I will be your teacher."

So he began to teach. He was one of the best teachers the boys and girls had ever seen. He helped the children read a very hard book. And he helped them spell hard words.

At the end of the day, some of the children went up to the dog and gave him a big kiss. They said, "We hope that Dan will be our teacher from now on."

More to come

Words in Passage: 203

Words in Checkout: 120

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



Use after: *Lesson 100 RMSE 1*

The Ugly Duckling

There once was a mother duck who found a big egg. She said, "I will put this egg with my other eggs." And so she did.

Soon all of the eggs hatched. The little eggs hatched and the big egg that she found hatched. What do you think came out of the big egg? A funny-looking duckling. He was big, and he kept falling down when he tried to walk.

The other ducklings called him names. "You are ugly," they said. "You are an ugly duckling."

The ugly duckling was sad. None of the other ducklings would play with him. They just called him names. "Boy, are you ever an ugly duckling," they would say.

The ugly duckling said to himself. "I am so ugly and nobody likes me."

The ducklings grew up. The little ducklings grew up to be pretty ducks, just like their mother and father. And what do you think happened to the big ugly duckling?

One day all of the ducklings saw a pretty swan swimming on the pond. They all stopped and looked at the swan. "My, my," they said. "That swan is so pretty."

They swam over to the swan and said, "Hello, pretty swan." And the swan said, "Hello."

Then one of the ducks said, "That is the ugly duckling." And it was. The ugly duckling was not a duckling at all. He had grown up to be a pretty swan.

So the swan and the ducks became good pals. And the ducks never called the swan ugly again.

This story is over.

Words in Passage: 263

Words in Checkout: 119

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



Use after: *Lesson 105 RMSE 1*

Boo Goes to the Castle

The five mean ghosts had made Boo leave the old house. When Boo was walking to town, he found a talking frog. The frog was near a stream. But the frog was not really a frog. It was a king. A monster had cast a spell on the king and turned him into a frog.

"I will help you," Boo said. "Just tell me where the monster stays."

The frog said, "The monster is in my castle. That castle is on the other side of town."

"You wait here," Boo said. "I will be back."

Boo floated up into the sky. He floated over the town like a bird. Soon he came to the castle on the other side of town. When he floated near the castle, the hounds began to howl. Boo floated to the top of the wall that went around the castle. The hounds were howling and howling.

Then the door to the castle opened and out came the meanest-looking monster Boo had ever seen. That monster roared, "Who is out here? Who is making my hounds howl?"

Boo did not say a thing. He just watched the monster.

The monster roared, "If you don't leave, I'll get you. I'll turn you into a frog or a toad."

When the monster went back into the castle, Boo floated from the wall. He found a window and went inside the castle. He could see the monster. Boo said to himself, "That monster is really mean."

The monster was holding a gold rod. She was saying, "As long as I have this magic rod, I can cast a spell over anybody. I can turn anybody into a frog or a toad."

Boo said to himself, "I must get that magic rod from the monster."

Stop

Words in Passage: 301

Words in Checkout: 120

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



Use after: *Lesson 110 RMSE 1*

Boo Casts Some Spells

The ghost had found words on the side of the rod. The ghost who was holding the rod said, "I can't read." Then he looked at the other mean ghosts. "Who can read these words?" he asked.

"Not me," they all said. Then the three ghosts looked at Boo.

"You can read," one ghost said. "So read these words and tell us how to turn you into a leaf."

Boo said, "Hand me the rod and I will do the best I can."

So the ghost handed the rod to Boo, and Boo looked at the words on the rod. Then Boo held the rod and said, "Bit, bite, ben, bean."

Nothing happened to Boo, but the other ghosts began to smile. One ghost said, "I don't feel mean anymore."

Another ghost said, "I feel like playing games with the boys and girls in town."

Another ghost said, "Not me. I feel like going out and helping a farmer milk cows."

Before they left, they turned to Boo and said, "Thank you for making us feel so good."

After they left, Boo held up the rod and said, "Sip, dim, dime, dup." The flower turned back into a smiling ghost. And the leaf turned back into a smiling ghost. They both gave Boo a kiss and they left for school.

"We want to read books," they said.

Boo said some magic words to make his fins and tail go away. Then he said, "Now I will go find the frog and turn him back into a king."

More to come

Words in Passage: 264

Words in Checkout: 139

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



Use after: *Lesson 115 RMSE 1*

Ott Tells Lies

When the mean boys tried to take the bottle from Carla, she rubbed the bottle and Ott appeared.

Ott said, "Oh, Master Carla, what can I do for you?"

Carla said, "Give those boys a spanking."

"Yes, master," Ott said. He sounded smart, but he didn't know how to give the boys a spanking. He could only remember the word banking.

"Well," Carla said at last, "are you going to give them a spanking?"

"Yes," Ott said. "A spanking it will be."

Ott waved his hands. Suddenly, Carla, Ott, and the three boys were in a bank. They were banking.

Carla said, "What kind of genie are you?"

The boys said, "Let's get out of here," and they began to run from the bank as fast as they could go.

Ott was very sad. He said, "Carla, I am a very old genie. I have been in the bottle for thousands of years. I have not done tricks for thousands of years."

Ott was telling some big lies. He was not a very old genie. He had not lived in the bottle for thousands of years, and he didn't forget how to do genie tricks. He never was able to do them.

Carla said, "Well can you get us out of this bank and take us home?"

"Yes Master Carla," Ott said. "That should be easy."

Ott folded his arms. He said some words. Boop.

Suddenly, Ott and Carla were standing in the middle of a big city. Carla looked around. Then she said, "This is not home. This is Rome. Rome is thousands of miles from my home."

More next time

Words in Passage: 275

Words in Checkout: 139

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



Use after: *Lesson 120 RMSE 1*

Carla Reads the Genie Book

Carla and Ott were in Rome. Ott had just made something happen the right way. He had wished for a window pane, and the pane came.

"I think I can get us out of here," Ott said. "But maybe I should call for help. I think I can do that now."

"All right," Carla said. "Call for help." Ott folded his arms and began to say things to himself. Then something began to fly across the sky. It began to dive at Ott. "Splat." It was a big wet, fat fish.

Carla began to laugh. Then she said, "I don't think you're a genie yet."

"You are right," Ott said. Then he held up a big book. "This is my school book," he said. "It tells you how to do things like a genie. Maybe we can read the book and find out how to go home."

"Good plan," Carla said. "Let's go to a park and sit down in the shade."

So Ott and Carla went to a park. They sat near a little stream.

Carla said, "Let's flip to the back of the book. That part will tell how to do the hard tricks."

So Carla flipped to the back of the book. She stopped at the part that said, "How to Go Home."

"This is what we want," Carla said. She began to read the part out loud.

More next time

Words in Passage: 239

Words in Checkout: 150

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



Use after: *Lesson 125 RMSE 1*

Will Carla Take the Genie Vow?

The day had come for everyone in school to take a vow to be a genie. The old genie came to class that day. She had a ring for every new genie.

Before she gave out the rings, she stood in front of the class and said, "Today is your last day in this school. You have worked hard and now you are ready to leave. You are ready to take your place as a genie. But before you take your vow, remember this. It is not easy to be a genie. You must forget about the things that you want to do. You must think about your master. You must do only what your master wants you to do. Not all of you will have good masters. But once you take the genie vow, you must do what genies have done for thousands and thousands of years. You must obey your master at all times. You must forget about yourself."

The old genie looked at Carla. Carla looked down. Then she began to cry. She felt very bad. She liked the genie school, but she didn't want to spend the rest of her life in a bottle. She didn't want to forget about herself and do what her master wanted her to do. She said, "I can't do it. I can't take the vow of a genie."

All of the children looked at her. The old genie patted her on the back. Then the old genie said, "We don't want you to take the vow. You are a human, and you should spend life as a human spends life. I once told you that you would not like genie school."

"But I did like it," Carla said. "I just can't take that vow."

Words in Passage: 364

Words in Checkout: 149

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



Will Carla Take the Genie Vow? (Continued)

“Carla,” the old genie said, “we are very glad that you came to our school. You showed us a lot about humans. We won’t feel bad if you don’t take the vows. These vows are for genies, not for humans.”

Carla wiped her eyes. All of the children smiled. Carla could see that they were not mad at her. She felt better now.

Stop

Use after: *Lesson 130 RMSE 1*

Kim Moves Her Stuff in a Van

Kim was really mad. After the man left Kim with a set of false teeth, Kim picked up the phone book and tossed it out of the window. She shouted, "That book gets me in a lot of trouble."

A boy was passing by Kim's house. He stopped and picked up the phone book. He said, "Is this your book?"

"I just tossed it away," Kim said. "I can't find anything in it."

What do you want to find?" the boy asked.

"I need a van to take my things to the other side of town."

"Here," the boy said. He walked over to Kim. He had already found the right place in the phone book. "Why don't you call this number? It says that they have very fast service every day."

So Kim called the number. She said to the woman who answered the phone, "I don't want a vane. I don't need any trunks. And I have lots of teeth. I need a van. Do you have a van?"

"Yes," the woman said. "We'll send one right to you."

And at last a van came to Kim's house. "It's about time," Kim said. And in no time Kim had loaded all of her stuff into the van. She loaded her bike and her bags and her skates and her vane and her trunk. She slipped her false teeth into her pocket. Then she got into the van.

And when she was ready to leave her house, the boy said, "I can go with you and help."

"Yes," Kim said. "You can come along and help me read the names of the streets. I am going to Jane Street. You can see to it that I don't end up on Jan Street or on James Street."

Words in Passage: 387

Words in Checkout: 148

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



Kim Moves Her Stuff in a Van (Continued)

"Okay," the boy said. He rode in the front of the van with Kim. And he told Kim when they reached Jane Street. He was a big help. When he had helped Kim take all of her stuff from the van, Kim said, "I would like to give you something for helping me." And what do you think Kim gave him?

He now has a big vane in his back yard. He is very proud of that vane.

The end of the story

Use after: *Lesson 135 RMSE 1*

Flame the Snake Is a Sneak

Flame the snake was looking for something to eat. The turtle said, "No, I have not seen any frogs around here."

Flame smiled and started to slide back into the weeds. Then that snake stopped and said, "I will be back."

The turtle said to himself, "I don't like that snake. I think she is a sneak. I think I will leave." The turtle walked into the pond and began to swim around. Then the frog came over to him. The frog said, "What did Flame say to you?"

The turtle said, "She said that she wanted something to eat."

The frog asked, "Did she say what she wanted to eat?"

"Yes," the turtle said. "She told me that she wanted to eat a frog."

"That is bad," the frog said. "That is very, very bad." The frog jumped from the pond and sat on an old log. He shook his head. "That is bad," he said again. "Flame is very strong. Flame is very fast. And she is a sneak. She gives me a big scare."

Just then, a big mouth shot up to the log. Snap. It was Flame's mouth. And it just missed the frog. The frog jumped from the log, but he landed in the tall weeds. Flame smiled and began to slide into the weeds.

Flame said, "Frogs can't jump very well when they are in the weeds. I think I will have my lunch now. I think my lunch is here in the weeds."

"Save me," the frog yelled. "I can't get away from that snake. Save me."

Words in Passage: 367

Words in Checkout: 150

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



Flame the Snake Is a Sneak (Continued)

The turtle shouted, "I will save you."

The turtle began to walk as fast as he could go. Flame the snake stopped. "My, my," Flame said. "I see a walking toadstool." Flame was still smiling. "Get out of my way, you silly-looking thing, or I will eat you, too."

The turtle said, "If you don't stop sliding after that frog, I'll bite you on the nose."

Flame smiled and turned away. She seemed to be going back to the log. But suddenly--snap. Like a shot, her mouth came at the turtle.

This story is not over.



Use after: *Lesson 140 RMSE 1*

The Rabbit and the Turtle

All the other animals wanted to see the turtle beat the rabbit in a race. The rabbit had told everybody that she would stop telling how fast she was if the turtle beat her. But the rabbit seemed far too fast for the turtle. The rabbit went flying over the path and over the stream. Soon she was at the hill. She stopped to look back. All she could see was a cloud of dust. "Ho, ho," she said. "That turtle must be a mile behind me. He cannot win this race."

So the rabbit sat down under a tree. She closed her eyes and leaned back. And the first thing you know she was sound asleep.

The turtle didn't stop when the rabbit got far ahead of him. The turtle kept going as fast as he could go. He just kept going and going. He said to himself, "I'll just keep on going, and I'll beat that rabbit."

After a while the turtle came to the stream. He crossed the stream and started up the hill. He could see the big rock on the other side of the woods. And he could see the rabbit. The rabbit was still sleeping under the tree.

The turtle said to himself, "I'll just keep on going."

And he did. He went past the rabbit. He was getting closer and closer to the big rock. When they saw the turtle coming up the side of the hill, they started to shout, "Come on turtle. You can do it."

They yelled louder and louder as the turtle got closer and closer to the rock. When the turtle was only a few feet from the rock, they were yelling so loud that they woke up the rabbit.

Words in Passage: 436

Words in Checkout: 159

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



The Rabbit and the Turtle (Continued)

“What’s this?” she said. She looked around and saw the turtle near the rock. When that rabbit saw what was happening, she began to run so fast that you couldn’t see her. She went so fast that the grass bent over, and the dust cloud was so thick that you couldn’t see the sun. She ran so fast that the other animals just looked at her with big eyes.

But she didn’t win the race. The turtle stepped past the big rock just before the rabbit shot by in a cloud of dust.

Now all of the animals are happy because the rabbit doesn’t tell everybody how fast she is. And the rabbit is a little smarter than she was. She knows that it takes more than speed to win a race. You have to keep trying.

The End

Use after: *Lesson 145 RMSE 1*

The Prince and the Tramp

There once was a prince. The prince always dressed in fine clothes. He had a gold crown and a long robe and red shoes. When the prince walked down the streets of the city, everybody would say, "We love the prince. He is so handsome."

When the prince was hungry, people would bring food to him. Then the prince would say to himself, "Everybody loves me."

When the prince was tired of walking, people would give him a horse to ride.

One day the prince met a tramp. This tramp did not have a gold crown, or a long robe, or red shoes. This tramp did not have any shoes. He had an old shirt with holes in it. But that tramp looked just like the prince.

The tramp said, "How strange. You look just like me."

The prince said, "Let us have some fun. I will dress like you, and you will dress like me."

So the prince put on the tramp's clothes, and the tramp put on the gold crown and the long robe and the red shoes. The tramp looked just like the prince. The tramp left the prince and walked down the street. And what do you think happened?

All the people looked at the tramp and said, "We love the prince."

A man came up to the tramp and said, "If you are tired of walking, you may have my horse."

A lady came up to the tramp and said, "You must be hungry. Come to my house and I will give you a big meal."

Words in Passage: 436

Words in Checkout: 160

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



The Prince and the Tramp (Continued)

But the real prince did not have a good time. When he walked on the streets of the city, people said, "Get out of here, you tramp."

The prince was hungry. He wanted something to eat. So he went up to a man and said, "I am hungry. Give me something to eat."

But the man said, "Get out of here, you tramp."

The prince was sad. He said to himself, "I didn't know how hard it is to be a tramp."

The real prince met the tramp the next day. The prince said, "You will never be a tramp again." So the prince took the tramp home.

And years later, the prince became king. He never forgot the day that he was a tramp. He tried to help all of the tramps in the city. He said, "The people love me because I have fine clothes. I will give the tramps nice clothes so the people will love them, too." And that's what the good king did.

The End



Use after: *Lesson 150 RMSE 1*

Jean Looks for Food

Jean was dreaming about a strange place. She was at the mountain in the land of peevish pets. And she was very hungry. She said, "I wish I had something to eat, and I wish the wizard was here."

Just then the wizard appeared. He said, "You may eat all you want, but remember this rule: Red food is good to eat. See if you can say that rule."

Jean said, "Red food is good to eat."

The wizard said, "Good remembering."

Jean said, "I will remember that rule. But what and when...."

The wizard was gone again. Jean said to herself, "That is strange. Every time I say 'But what and when,' the wizard goes away."

Jean looked around and found lots of food. There was food on the ground. There was food on the side of the mountain. There was a bowl of yellow ice cream right in front of her. Should she eat that yellow ice cream?

How do you know?

Tell Jean the rule before she tries to eat the ice cream.

Jean saw big white grapes on a vine. Should she eat those white grapes?

How do you know?

Tell Jean the rule before she tries to eat them.

Jean saw a red banana. Should she eat that red banana?

How do you know?

Tell Jean the rule.

Words in Passage: 303

Words in Checkout: 180

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



Jean Looks for Food (Continued)

Jean did not think that the banana looked very good, but she took a bite out of it.

"Wow," she said. "This is the best banana I have ever had." She ate that banana.

Then she found another banana. That banana was yellow. Should she eat that banana?

How do you know?

Tell Jean the rule.

Jean dropped the yellow banana and picked up a red banana. She began eating it.

This is not the end.

Use after: *Lesson 155 RMSE 1*

A Funny Animal Appears

The wizard told Jean a rule for getting her hair back. Tell Jean that rule.

Jean started to ask the wizard, "But what and when...."

But the wizard disappeared before she could ask the question. Jean said, "I think I'll get my hair back." Jean clapped her hands. So did she get her hair back?

Jean felt her head. Her hair was back. She ran to the lake and looked at herself in the water. Her hair was back, but it was striped again.

She said, "Oh well. I would rather have striped hair than be bald."

Just then a big, funny-looking animal came out of the lake. Part of that animal looked like a horse, and part of that animal looked like a monkey. The animal walked up to Jean and said, "I can help you get out of this place. I know all sixteen rules."

"Good," Jean said, "Teach me the rules I don't know."

The funny animal said, "Here's a good rule: All dust paths lead to the mountain."

"No," Jean said. "That's not right. Dusty paths do not lead to the mountain."

The animal looked very angry. He said, "Are you saying that I would tell a lie?"

"No," Jean said.

The talking animal said, "Here is another good rule: If you jump in the lake, you will get red stripes."

Words in Passage: 343

Words in Checkout: 154

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



A Funny Animal Appears (Continued)

"No," Jean said, "If you jump in the lake, the stripes will disappear."

The talking animal looked very angry. "Do not say that I lie. Talking animals never lie. If you don't want to know the rules, I will not tell you any new rules."

Jean said, "Please tell me a new rule. I must know the rules so that I can leave this strange place."

"All right," the talking animal said. "Here is a good rule: If you want to have fun, say, 'Side, slide.'"

Help Jean say that rule.

"Thank you," Jean said. "I think I will have some fun right now."

What can Jean say to have fun?

More next time

Use after: *Lesson 160 RMSE 1*

Leaving the Land of Peevish Pets

Jean had found out fifteen rules. The last rule she found out told about making the wizard disappear. She needed only one more rule. So she sat down and began to think. Suddenly, she jumped up. She said, "I've got it. Every time I needed help, the wizard appeared. I think that's the rule. I'll find out." She stood up and yelled, "I need help."

Suddenly, the wizard appeared. Jean said, "I think I know all of the rules. I know how to make you appear. Here's the rule: If you want the wizard to appear, call for help."

"Good," the wizard said.

Then Jean said, "So now I can leave this land of peevish pets."

"That is right," the wizard said. "You have found out all the rules. So you may leave. Just close your eyes."

Jean closed her eyes. Suddenly, she felt something licking her face.

She opened her eyes. She was in bed. Her mom and dad were standing near the bed, and there was a puppy on the bed. He was licking Jean's face. He was black and brown and white. And he had a long tail. He was very pretty. Jean hugged him.

"Can I keep him?" she asked. "Can I, please?"

"He's your puppy," her mom said. Jean hugged the puppy harder. The puppy licked her face again.

Jean's mom said, "Somebody left this puppy for you. There was a note with him."

Words in Passage: 332

Words in Checkout: 180

Time: 2 mins

Errors: 5



Leaving the Land of Peevish Pets (Continued)

Jean's dad handed the note to Jean. The note said: "This dog is for Jean. His name is Wizard. And here is the rule about Wizard: If you love him and play with him, he will grow up to be the best dog in the land."

Jean was so happy that tears were running down her cheeks. She said, "Thank you, Wizard. Thank you very much."

She followed the rule. And her dog Wizard did become the very best dog in the land.

This is the end.



Use after: *Lesson 101 RMSE 1*

Rolla Slows Down

One day, Rolla said to herself, "I am number 1 but I am right behind number 8." Rolla thought that she should be far away from number 8. Then it would look as if she was the leader and the other horses were following her.

Rolla said, "I will get far from horse 8." To do that, Rolla slowed down. She went slower and slower. But when she went slower, all the other horses went slower. The music slowed down. The mothers were unhappy. One of them said, "This merry-go-round is so slow you can't tell if it's going or if it has stopped."

The other horses were not happy with Rolla. Horse 2 kept shouting at Rolla, "Come on, Rolla. Let's get this merry-go-round moving." But Rolla tried as hard as she could to slow down.

At the end of the day, horse 8 was still there, right in front of her.

That evening, horse 3 asked, "What are you trying to do?"

When Rolla told them, some of the horses started to laugh. Then horse 5 said, "Rolla, would you be happy if you could not see horse 8?"

"Yes," Rolla said. "If I could not see that horse, I would not feel like I was following it. I would feel like the leader."

So the other horses did a lot of talking. When they were done, they smiled and told Rolla they would fix things up.

The next day when Rolla woke up, she looked in front of her and saw mountains and valleys. They were lovely. She couldn't see another horse anywhere in front of her. After a while, she found out that the other horses had made a painting and put it between her and horse 8. But Rolla didn't care. She felt wonderful leading all the horses into the mountains.



Rolla Slows Down (Continued)

So everything is fine now. The horses are happy. The music sounds good. And the mothers and children like the merry-go-round even more than before.

The end.

Words in Passage: 336



Use after: *Lesson 110 RMSE 1*

Tubby the Tug

The fastest motorboats in the bay stayed at Dock Three. But one boat was slow. She was a smoky old tug named Tubby. Tubby was ten times slower than the other boats, but ten times stronger. Tubby's job was to push and pull the biggest ships in and out of the bay.

When Tubby honked her horn and went to work, the other boats got mad. "Stop making all that noise," they would say.

At the end of the day, when Tubby had put the last ship in place, she would go back to Dock Three. Tubby tried to keep quiet, but the other boats would complain. "Get that noisy tug out of here."

One night a very bad storm raced into the bay. Waves crashed against the ships and barges. One big barge was blown out of place. The other boats woke up and started tugging at their ropes to get free. Tubby was still sleeping. Soon the barge was very close to the dock. The barge made three loud horn blasts.

Those blasts woke Tubby. Tubby thought it was time to work.

"Wow," Tubby said when she saw how close the barge was. "I don't know if I can stop that barge before it smashes everything."

"Oh, please try. Please," the other boats cried.

Tubby went between the barge and the dock. Then she pushed against the barge as hard as she could. Tubby pushed and puffed. The barge started moving slower and slower. Then it stopped. Then it moved slowly back.

"Tubby saved us," the other boats shouted.

But Tubby still had a lot of work.

Finally she put that barge in place.

Tubby's motor worked so hard that Tubby stopped. Her motor had blown up.



Tubby the Tug (Continued)

One of the boats that had been mean to Tubby got free and raced into the bay. He grabbed Tubby's tow rope and pulled her back. That boat had never worked so hard before, but he was glad to do it.

Today, Tubby's motor is fixed. Tubby still honks and puffs smoke and goes to work every morning. But the other boats don't complain. They are proud to have Tubby as their friend.

The end.

Words in Passage: 367



Use after: *Lesson 119 RMSE 1*

Patty the Mouse

There once was a very large mouse named Patty. She lived with her mom and dad and her six brothers and nine sisters. All the other mice in her family spoke in a tiny voice. Patty could not speak in a tiny voice. She had a very loud voice.

The mice had to be quiet when they went out. A large gray cat named Arnold lived in the house. If Arnold found the mice while they were sneaking around looking for food, he would pounce on them. One night, Patty's mom and dad told her she could not go out with them because of her loud voice.

Patty's mom and dad were afraid because there were new smells in the house. Arnold had four cats visiting him. They were planning a pouncing party.

From the mouse hole, Patty watched her dad leading the way toward the kitchen. Suddenly, Patty saw three cats following her family into the kitchen.

Patty said to herself, "I must do something to save my family." Patty snuck through the mouse hole, along the edge of the rug, and down the hall. She was now behind the three cats, and the three cats were behind Patty's family. Patty was going to tell her family, "Cats are behind you. Run." But then she saw two more cats in front of her family. If the mice started to run, they would run right into the cats who were waiting.

One of the cats behind the mice was getting very close to one of Patty's sisters. Patty shouted in her loudest voice, "WATCH OUT."

Patty's voice sent the cats flying. When those cats landed, they were howling and running as fast as they could go.



Patty the Mouse (Continued)

Three days later, Patty's family gave her a cheese party. Her dad said, "We are very proud of you. You are a brave mouse, and you saved us from those cats. Thank you." After that day Patty went out with her family whenever she wanted.

The end.

Words in Passage: 336



Use after: Lesson 128 RMSE 1

The Circus

One spring day, the bragging rats saw an ad on the ground for a circus. At once they started to brag.

Sherlock said he was the best at doing circus tricks. Moe said he could do better tricks than Sherlock could ever dream of doing. The rats shouted for a long time. The wise old rat said, "There is only one way to settle this. We will have a circus. We will see which one of you does the best circus tricks."

So all of the rats worked very hard to set up a circus tent. On the day of the circus, they gathered in the tent.

The first contest was juggling nuts. The bragging rats threw their nuts in the air. Most of them landed on the ground. One landed on Sherlock's head. The crowd roared with laughter.

The wise old rat said, "For the next contest, the rats will ride unicycles."

Both bragging rats tried to ride at the same time. They got on. They ran into each other. They fell down. And they did a lot of yelling at each other. "You knocked me down. Stay out of my way."

The crowd laughed a lot.

After the bragging rats tried to juggle and ride unicycles, they tried walking the tight rope.

Both of the rats quickly fell off the tight rope. The crowd laughed.

The last contest was the trapeze. Both the rats tried to get on the same trapeze, but soon both of them were hanging by one paw. Then they were hanging by no paws. Ouch.

The rats in the crowd laughed so loudly that they could not hear the bragging rats yelling at each other. After the laughter stopped, everybody voted for the rat that did the best circus tricks.

The Circus (Continued)

The rat pack didn't think either bragging rat was good at circus tricks. But all of them agreed that the bragging rats were the best clowns anybody had ever seen.

The end.

Words in Passage: 330



Use after: *Lesson 137 RMSE 1*

Gorman Gets Glasses

Gorman was a goat who did not see well. One day, Gorman came into the barn and ran into a pile of pots. Gorman said, "Pardon me, sir. I didn't see you standing there."

A cow named Clarabelle said, "Gorman, you're speaking to a pot."

Gorman laughed and said, "I was just making a joke."

"No," Clarabelle said. "You need glasses. The vet is coming to the farm today. I'll bet she can make glasses for you."

So that afternoon, the vet gave Gorman an eye test. She set the chart on a tall oak tree. There were letters on the chart. Gorman stood ten yards from the chart. The vet told him, "Read all the letters. Start with the biggest letter at the top of the chart."

Gorman said, "What chart?"

The vet said, "My, my. This goat really needs glasses."

She told Gorman, "I will have glasses for you two weeks from now."

When the vet returned, she put the eye chart in front of the oak tree. She told Gorman to keep his eyes closed as she tied the new glasses around his ears. Then she said, "Open your eyes and tell me what you see."

Gorman looked around and jumped. "Help," he hollered. "What is that great brown and white thing next to me?"

Clarabelle said, "Gorman, that's me."

After Gorman named all the letters on the eye chart, he went to the pond and looked at himself in the water. "Who is that silly looking animal?" he asked.

Just then, his glasses slipped off and fell into the water. Gorman said, "Oh, no. I will never find my glasses now."



Gorman Gets Glasses (Continued)

A voice said, "Don't say never." That voice came from a big toad. Then the toad said, "Brothers, sisters, and pals, let's see who can find those glasses."

Within seconds, hundreds of toads were in the pond. They found Gorman's glasses, and Gorman was very grateful, of course. After he put on his glasses, he told the leader toad, "You are a strange looking animal, but I would like to be your friend." And that's just what happened.

The end.

Words in Passage: 358



Use after: *Lesson 142 RMSE 1*

Honey and Sweetie

There once was the meanest looking bulldog you ever saw. People were always shocked to find out that this bulldog was named Honey. She got that name because she was as sweet as honey. There was only one thing that Honey didn't like. She really didn't like cats that chased birds, butterflies, or mice. One of Honey's pals was a little gray mouse named Andrea.

One day, a woman with a big yellow cat came to Honey's house to visit. The woman and the cat went inside. After a while, Honey got up, yawned, and waddled into the house.

The woman was sitting at the table, but where was the cat? That's what the woman wanted to know, too. She said, "Where did Sweetie go?"

Everybody found out where he was in the next moment. The sounds of running came from the next room. Honey waddled into that room. Sweetie was chasing Andrea, and poor little Andrea was running for her life. They darted under the table. Sweetie tried to pounce on Andrea, but his claws got stuck on the table cloth. He pulled the table cloth off the table, and it fell over him like a big white net. Sweetie was stuck. His yellow tail was sticking out one end, and his nose was sticking out of the other end.

While Sweetie was rolling around and trying to get free, Andrea darted down the hall and into her hole. Honey said to herself, "It is time to teach this cat a lesson."

She waddled over to Sweetie and gave his tail a little bite. Then she waddled outside. Sweetie howled.



Honey and Sweetie (Continued)

At last, Sweetie got free. He looked around the room, but he didn't see Honey. He saw Andrea peeking out of her hole. Sweetie shook his head and said to himself, "That mouse looks really weak, but she can really bite hard."

That was the last time Sweetie chased Andrea. In fact, there are a lot of things that Sweetie does not chase. He doesn't chase mice, and he doesn't even chase little birds.

The end.

Words in Passage: 350



Use after: Lesson 146 RMSE 1

Sweetie and the Mirror

One day the woman who owned Sweetie took him to a friend's house. Sweetie had never been there before. At first, he sat in the kitchen. Then he went into the other rooms. Suddenly he saw something he had never seen before. It was a mirror. That mirror went all the way to the floor.

Sweetie did not know that it was a mirror. To him, it looked like another part of the room. But as Sweetie moved in front of the mirror, he suddenly saw something that made him mad. He saw another cat in front of him. He said to himself, "What is that ugly yellow cat doing here?"

Then he thought, "I'll show that cat how mean and strong I am." So Sweetie made a mean face. But the other yellow cat made a mean face at the same time Sweetie did.

Sweetie showed his teeth, and the other cat did the same thing. Sweetie held up a paw and showed his long, sharp claws to the other cat. But the other cat showed his claws to Sweetie at the same time. Sweetie said to himself, "That cat may be ugly, but it has to be the fastest cat I have ever seen. As soon as I do something, that cat does it at the same time."

Then Sweetie said, "I know how to scare this cat. I will leap at him."

So Sweetie got his legs ready for a big leap, and then he jumped as hard as he could. He went flying through the air. Bonk. He banged his head against the mirror and bounced backward. He landed on his back on the floor. He rolled around. And finally he looked at the cat in the mirror. That cat was just looking at Sweetie.

Sweetie said to himself, "That cat may be ugly, but that cat is fast, and it can really hit hard."



Sweetie and the Mirror (Continued)

The next time Sweetie's owner took him to the house with the ugly yellow cat, Sweetie just curled up under the table in the kitchen and stayed there. He never found out who that yellow cat was.

The end.

Words in Passage: 362



Use after: *Lesson 151 RMSE 1*

Goober

Goober lived on a farm that was right between two towns. When the wind was blowing to the east, most of the people in East Town were not very happy. And when the wind was blowing to the west, most of the people in West Town were not very happy.

The people were not happy because Goober's farm smelled bad. But when they ran inside to get away from the smell, they could not hear his sweet violin music. The violin music Goober played was as sweet as honey.

One day, a little girl went to visit Goober. She had a package with her. She told Goober, "We love your music, but you need to clean up your pigs. They stink." When she was done talking, she grabbed her nose.

"Golly," Goober said. "I didn't know that."

She handed Goober her package and said, "Here are sub thigs for you." She turned around and ran away.

Goober opened the package. Inside were some bars of pig soap.

Then Goober went down to the pond with the package. He called his pigs. They came running. Then he jumped into the pond with the pigs and scribed them until they were pink. Scrub, scrub, scrub. He rubbed and scrubbed and washed and cleaned. When he was done, his pigs were as clean and sweet smelling as anybody in East Town or West Town. He sniffed the air and said, "These pigs really smell strange."

Goober (Continued)

Now things are different in West Town and East Town. People sit outside and listen to Goober's violin music every summer evening. And the air is as sweet as the music they listen to. The little girl from West Town goes to visit Goober every week. She always leaves a package with him, and the people in West Town and East Town are very glad that she does.

The end.

Words in Passage: 313



Use after: *Lesson 155 RMSE 1*

Boring Bill

Bill Wilson was a nice man, but he was not a very popular person. Bill was boring. He was so boring that every time he started talking, he would put people to sleep.

Bill tried to say things that would interest other people. But it didn't work. After Bill was through speaking, everybody else was sleeping.

One day, Bill got a call from the leader of the Sleep More Clinic. The leader asked Bill to help the Sleep More Clinic with some patients who had not been able to sleep. The next morning, Bill went to the Sleep More Clinic. The leader told Bill that the first patient he would see had not been able to sleep for three nights. Bill talked to that patient a while. In a few minutes, she was sleeping. The same thing happened with the next patient.

After Bill put the second patient to sleep, the leader said, "Why are we working with patients one at a time? Let's bring in all the other patients."

Before Bill went home that day, the leader of the sleep team asked Bill, "Would you like to work at our clinic?"

Bill had a new job. But he still had problems. He was great at putting people to sleep at work, but he still put everybody else to sleep, too.

So Bill kept reading about how to be interesting, and he kept trying different things to be less boring.

At last, he found something that worked. He talked in a high voice and talked faster. Nobody fell asleep.

Boring Bill (Continued)

But Bill's high voice did not work with his patients. So now Bill has two voices. He talks in his regular voices when he is working with patients. But when he is not at work, he speaks in a high voice. That voice sounds a little strange, but it doesn't put people to sleep. Now Bill is pretty popular. And people no longer think he's boring. They call him the Sleep Master.

The end.

Words in Passage: 335



Use after: *Lesson 160 RMSE 1*

Noser

Noser was a dog that had a great nose. He lived with a family of five people, but his best pal in that family was Pam.

Noser sometimes got into trouble. He would run away and go out sniffing.

Pam's mother told Pam that Noser would have to go live somewhere else if he ran away any more. Pam tried to be careful, but Noser kept getting away.

One day Pam's mom said, "Pam, I called your Uncle Dick and told him about Noser. He said he would let Noser live with him on the farm."

"For how long?" Pam asked.

"Forever," her mom said.

Pam was sad that evening. She took Noser for a walk. She thought it might be her last walk with Noser.

Three blocks from home Pam saw police cars and people in front of a brown house. The baby girl who lived in the house was missing.

Pam thought for a moment and then said to a police officer, "Maybe Noser can find the baby. Noser can find anything."

The police officer led Pam and Noser to the last place the baby was seen. Noser started sniffing. He pulled Pam along to a house near the corner. Noser went to a small hole under the house and sniffed. He scratched at the hole. Then Pam heard a tiny voice say "Mama."

In minutes the police officer pulled the baby out of the hole. People cheered. The baby's mother cried. She hugged her baby and patted Noser. "Oh, thank you for saving my baby," she said.

Noser (Continued)

The next morning the newspaper had a big story about Noser. It called him a hero. The story said that if Noser hadn't found the baby, the baby could have died.

When Pam got home from school, three people who lived near Pam were standing at the door. One of them said, "We have all been here before to tell about the bad things Noser did. We're here this time to tell you that we want Noser to stay around here."

Pam's mom said, "Thank you. But I can't promise that he won't get out."

Pam said, "But if he does, just call me. I'll take care of the mess." Everybody thought that was a good plan.

Noser still lives with Pam. Once in a while, he gets out and goes sniffing, but everybody is proud to have a hero dog live near them.

On Saturdays, Pam goes with Noser to Uncle Dick's farm. She runs through the fields and the woods with Noser, and they have a very good time.

The end.

Words in Passage: 434

